

# CITY OF TUKWILA STRATEGIC PLAN

## Steering Committee Meeting #1

May 30, 2012 | Meeting Summary



## MEETING INFORMATION

### Purpose

- Review project objectives, approach, schedule, and deliverables
- Brainstorm ideas and perspectives on Tukwila's assets and opportunities
- Launch community engagement process

### Attendees



- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ David Cline, City Manager | ■ Charanpreet Samra         |
| ■ Katrina Dohn              | ■ Verna Seal, Councilmember |
| ■ Mike Hansen               | ■ David Shumate             |
| ■ Joan Hernandez            | ■ Sarah Vallieu             |
| ■ Jenny McCoy               | ■ Lynn Wallace              |
| ■ Sharon Mann               | ■ Leshya Wig                |
| ■ Bryan Nelson              | ■ Elaina Yoon               |
| ■ Deborah Salas             |                             |

## ITEM 1: PROJECT OVERVIEW AND COMMITTEE CHARGE

- Mayor Jim Haggerton provided introductory remarks and welcomed the team.
- BERK presented the project schedule overview, the Steering Committee Role & Charge, and reviewed the Ground Rules.

## ITEM 2: TUKWILA'S ASSETS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES VISION: WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR TUKWILA'S FUTURE?

- BERK facilitated a brainstorming session around Tukwila's Assets, Challenges, and Opportunities

### Desired Future perceptions of Tukwila

- The Steering Committee's ideas about the qualities that they see as part of their vision for Tukwila's future include:
  - **Transportation and infrastructure.** Because Tukwila is central hub in the region, with all roads leading here, addressing these will be important for the future, as well as the infrastructure needs (sidewalks, underground utilities, etc.)
  - **Business involvement.** While recognizing that some businesses will always associate themselves with the region more than Tukwila, increasing the involvement of current and future businesses in the community, and the public understanding of Tukwila businesses, is desired.
  - **Greater stability and service provision.** Acknowledging the turnover that exists in the community, the Steering Committee envisions Tukwila having greater stability for its residents, with their social service needs met by the City.
  - **Perception and image.** To address the misconceptions of Tukwila, the focus should be on creating vibrant places, being known for our strong community assets (e.g. Aviation High School and the Museum of Flight), and our safe neighborhoods and businesses.

### Tukwila's Strengths

- The Steering Committee identified numerous strengths:
  - **Location and infrastructure.** Easy access to much of the region as well the City's park system, were noted as strengths.
  - **Size and service delivery.** Tukwila's small size is a huge asset because there's not a huge bureaucracy and we have a track record of success. We are seen as friendly to development, have a track record of success, provide great services, and there is a strong connection between our City agencies and school district. However, we do need to think about options for social services agencies.
  - **Economy.** Tukwila has a strong retail core that serves as a regional draw, in part because of its entertainment value. We have a strong and diverse economy, though we might want to think more about our industrial base and how to strengthen connections and rebuild relationships.
  - **Diversity.** Tukwila is an international community, and we should work harder to view our diversity as something to embrace. We also have amazing young people, but we need to address certain issues (e.g. housing), so that they have a place to come back to in the future.

In addition, some key opportunities were noted by steering committee members:

- An opportunity to participate with neighboring Cities, such as through SCEDE. Becoming more partner-oriented will allow Tukwila to leverage the strength of the cluster.

## Tukwila's Challenges

- The Steering Committee identified several challenges facing Tukwila:
  - **Sales tax issues.** The number of zip codes in Tukwila creates issues regarding sales tax and how those sales tax revenues are allocated.
  - **Perception.** Tukwila faces perception issues that it isn't safe and that the schools aren't good. This creates challenges in attracting and retaining families.
  - **Limited connectivity.** Tukwila has segregated and isolated residential communities that need to be unified.
  - **Engagement with diverse communities.** While Tukwila's diversity is a great strength, there are challenges associated with engaging these communities and creating authentic buy-in.
  - **Transportation.** There can be difficulty getting around Tukwila, and the multiple highways and freeways create barriers between neighborhoods.
  - **Business Involvement and a changing economy.** There has been difficulty in getting businesses to contribute to community well-being, and there are global/macroeconomic issues that have created challenges for the city.

It was acknowledged that the committee needs to understand the efforts over the past 10-12 years. Lots of under-the-radar progress has been made on critical issues.